



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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27 OCTOBER 1965

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1. Indonesia

The Communists are now resorting to armed action in their Central Java stronghold. Army authorities there reacted today by proclaiming a "state of war" throughout the region. 50X1

Current small-scale Communist actions may be utterly uncoordinated reactions to army attacks against the party. But even so, they would appear to make any such "settlement" much more remote.

Army leaders have anticipated the trouble in Central Java for more than a week. They have been concerned not only over Communist strength in the region, but also over the doubtful loyalty of some local army units which have been infiltrated by Communists. Army reinforcements are being sent to the region.

army leaders remain willing to go to great lengths in their effort to continue working with President Sukarno. They are said, however, still to recognize the possibility that Sukarno's removal may ultimately prove to be necessary. 50X1

Sukarno, meanwhile, is still trying to restore his former predominant authority by stridently warning of the dangers of "neocolonialism" and the US Central Intelligence Agency.

2. Vietnam

The tempo of Viet Cong military and terrorist activity increased for the fifth consecutive week during the seven-day period ending on 23 October.

In all, there were 811 incidents, including four battalion and two company-strength assaults. This was the highest weekly total in more than a year.

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3. Pakistan

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4. Congo

President Kasavubu evidently pushed his new policy of seeking closer relations with the radical African states at the recent conference of African leaders in Accra.

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Kasavubu seems motivated primarily by his fear of Tshombé and the white soldiers whom he regards as Tshombé's mainstay.

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5. Brazil

President Castello Branco threw down the gauntlet before a balky Congress today and assumed broad new executive powers.

He decreed a new "institutional act" which has the force of a constitutional decree. Designed to strengthen the government against any resurgent influence by subversives or corrupt politicians, the latest move came after a period of growing anxiety in the military over the government's eroding political position.

The president's move was accompanied by a military show of force in the capital.

The full text of the new decree has not yet become available, but it seems to give near dictatorial powers to the president. According to press reports, it suspends political parties and gives the executive power to send Congress into recess. It also apparently provides for indirect presidential elections.

Reaction by the opposition is likely to be vehement, but no widespread violence seems in prospect. In the long run, the new decree will unify most of the military behind the president, and may improve his prospects for continuing his present policies of reform and economic development.

6. Dominican Republic

So far, it has been another relatively quiet day in Santo Domingo.

Garcia Godoy is still standing firm on his determination to replace the armed forces chiefs, whom he is convinced have flouted his authority. He now seems to recognize, however, that the men he selects to replace the chiefs must be acceptable to the armed services.

He has also agreed "in principle" to a package deal in which removal of the present chiefs would be accompanied by the departure from the country of former rebel leader Caamano and two or three of his associates.

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